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25 October 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR: Special Assistant to the Secretary of State for
Research and Intelligence
Director of Intelligence, General Staff, US Army
Chief of Naval Intelligence
Director of Intelligence, US Air Force

SUBJECT: IM-76: Soviet Economy

REFERENCE: Memorandum request from Secretary of Defense of
20 October 1948

1. Problem.

The Secretary of the Army has requested CIA to estimate the apparent improvement in the economic situation of the USSR and to appraise its significance to Russian foreign policy and US security.

2. Scope. The study should include the following points:

a. Latest reports of progress claimed by USSR

b. Review of the 4th Five Year Plan

(1) Goals

(2) Achievements

c. USSR position with respect to:

(1) Raw materials production

(2) Heavy industries production

(3) Light industries and consumers' goods production

(4) Agricultural production

(5) Transportation and communication

d. Conclusions as to:

(1) Russian foreign policy and mutual effects on economy

(2) Russian war potential

3. Deadline and Departmental Action.

The study will be informally coordinated with the Office of Intelligence Research of the Department of State on or about 8 November.

FOR THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, R & E

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cc: B/EE
G/EC
S/PP

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